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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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August 4, 2004

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The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to urge that you immediately convene the Judiciary Committee during the August recess to hold hearings and consider legislation implementing the unanimous recommendations of the 9-11 Commission's final report.

Several of the Commission's suggestions fall within our Committee's jurisdiction. These include:

- Requiring the Department of Homeland Security to implement a biometric entry-exit screening system;
- Developing national government standards for birth certificates and other forms of identification;
- Calling on the Justice Department to make the case for extending the PATRIOT Act provisions set to expire next year;
- Establishing a new executive branch board to ensure adherence to civil liberties protections;
- Developing and implementing a new intelligence information sharing system for the government; and
- Developing an FBI security workforce of agents, analysts, linguists, and other specialists who are specially recruited and retained for their abilities.

These are all important and sensitive issues, and I believe our Members would be best served the sooner we are able to commence reviewing the Commission's Report. Given the

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.

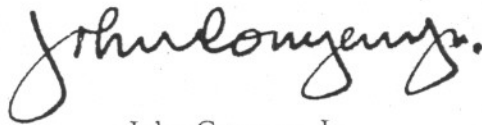
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massive intelligence failures our nation has suffered over the last several years, it is all the more important that we begin considering the various reforms proposed by the Commission this month.

I look forward to working with you and your staff on this matter of vital national security.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Conyers, Jr.", with a large, stylized initial "J".

John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Minority Member